

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY THEME: EMBRACING POSSIBILITY

Embracing Possibility has distinguished Unitarian Universalists from the start. Historically, when others saw depravity and sin at the core of human identity, we saw potential. When many were preaching that this world was fallen, we fell in love with the possibility of heaven on earth. Theologically, you might say we were the people who believed that God hadn't given up on us and so we shouldn't give up on each other or this world. Psychologically, it's led to us being a people of "why not?" Why not give people another chance? Why not fight what seems a losing battle? Why not risk a little failure?

As we honor our religion's faith in what's possible, we need to allow space for the reality that trusting possibility isn't so easy for many of us. Embracing Possibility isn't just about *believing* in possibility. It's about being willing to endure a few wounds along the way. It can hurt to be hopeful. So maybe the question this month isn't "Are you ready to lean into possibility?" but "Who's beside you and who are you bringing along?" Whose faith can you lean on when yours grows dim? After all, no one makes it down the road of possibility alone.

Which question is calling to you? Where is it leading you?

1. How has your belief in the possibility of a better world grown or shrunk over recent years?
2. Who taught you the most about defying expectations and unleashing your potential?
3. What are others learning about living and leaning into possibility by watching you?
4. What do you know about the possibilities that live on the other side of grief?
5. Are you sure you're too old to do it?

Wise Words:

It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting. *Paulo Coelho*

So many things are possible just as long as you don't know they're impossible. *Norton Juster*

Impossible is just a big word thrown around by small people who find it easier to live in the world they've been given than to explore the power they have to change it. Impossible is not a fact. It's an opinion. Impossible is not a declaration. It's a dare. *Muhammad Ali*

If I were to wish for anything, I should not wish for wealth and power, but for the passionate sense of the potential, for the eye which, ever young and ardent, sees the possible. Pleasure disappoints, possibility never. *Søren Kierkegaard*

I think it is healing behavior, to look at something so broken and see the possibility and wholeness in it.

[Adrienne Maree Brown](#)

"...Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one...
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover...
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful..."

[Amanda Gorman](#)

There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about. Ask: "What's possible?" not "What's wrong?" Keep asking. Notice what you care about. Assume that many others share your dreams...

[Margaret Wheatley](#)